PATENT Attorney Docket No. 1274/US/3 (formerly 5822.03) Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306

B. Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter and allow the above provided amendments to the claims. After entry of the above claim amendments, Applicant notes that claims 1-11 are unchanged and that claims 12 – 23 are new. Further, since the reopening of prosecution in the present application, a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance has not been received. Thus, Applicant contends that the above claim amendments are timely filed.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to review and expeditiously issue a Notice of Allowance for all of the above pending claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, such as whether the Examiner believes the entry of some or all of these new claims will significantly delay the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's attorney, John T. Kennedy, at (303) 260-6362, to discuss any the cause and/or resolution of any significant delay.

Dated: April 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted, Dorsey & Whitney LLP

By: John T. Kennedy Attorney for Applicant USPTO Reg. No. 42,717

Customer No. 20686